AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method of powering a cold cathode fluorescent light (CCFL) circuit, the method including:

determining a frequency provided to power the CCFL circuit based on a duty cycle of a driving waveform to the CCFL circuit.

- 2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the duty cycle of the driving waveform is approximately 50%.
- 3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein determining the frequency includes sensing a voltage of the driving waveform at a first node.
- 4. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein determining the frequency further includes setting values of a plurality of resistors for sensing the voltage of the driving waveform.
- 5. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein setting values is dependent on a defined duty factor.
- 6. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein setting values is dependent on a high level of the driving waveform.
- 7. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein setting values is dependent on a set reference voltage.
- 8. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein determining a frequency includes generating a first DC signal that is proportional to a time-averaged voltage at the first node.
 - 9. (Currently Amended) <u>A method of powering a cold cathode</u> fluorescent light (CCFL) circuit, the method including:

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determining a frequency provided to power the CCFL circuit
based on a duty cycle of a driving waveform to the CCFL circuit,
wherein the duty cycle is approximately 50%,
wherein determining the frequency includes:

sensing a voltage of the driving waveform at a first
node;

generating a first DC signal that is proportional to a time-averaged voltage at the first node;

The method of Claim 8, further including:

sensing a voltage at a second node that is proportional to a CCFL current; and

generating a second DC signal that is proportional to a time-averaged voltage at the second node, wherein the second DC signal is used in determining the frequency.

- 10. (Original) The method of Claim 9, further including clamping the second DC signal.
- 11. (Original) The method of Claim 10, further including clamping the first DC signal.
- 12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein clamping the first DC signal includes selecting one of a plurality of current sources.
- 13. (Original) The method of Claim 12, further including generating an interrupt signal that controls the driving waveform.

Claims 14-30 (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a voltage increase on a line in a CCFL circuit, the method including:

limiting the voltage increase to a first predetermined amount based on a first current source and a capacitor; and selectively resetting a capacitance of the capacitor to zero at the beginning of every dimming cycle of the CCFL circuit, thereby providing to provide a soft start on the line.

32. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a voltage increase on a line, the method including:

limiting the voltage increase to a first predetermined amount based on a first current source and a capacitor;

selectively resetting a capacitance of the capacitor to zero to provide a soft start on the line; and

The method of Claim 31, further including switching to a second current source, thereby limiting the voltage increase to a second predetermined amount based on the second current source and the capacitor.

Claims 33-37 (Cancelled)

38. (Allowed) A method for providing a drive signal to a CCFL circuit, the method comprising:

generating a first pulsed signal for pulling the drive signal up to a first predetermined value during a first transition of an input signal to the driver;

using a first current source to maintain the first predetermined value during a first state of the input signal;

generating a second pulse for pulling the drive signal down to a second predetermined value during a second transition of the input signal; and

using a second current source circuit to maintain the second predetermined value during a second state of the input signal.

39. (Allowed) The method of Claim 38, further including limiting the second predetermined value by using a device with diode characteristics.

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